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February 28, 2013

Industry and Academia Partners of the Defense Threat Reduction Agency and U.S. Strategic Command Center for Combating Weapons of Mass Destruction

SUBJECT: Sequestration Communications and Planning

Our Nation is faced with serious Federal budget challenges, resulting in a prolonged period of uncertainty for the entire Department of Defense. The Defense Threat Reduction Agency and U.S. Strategic Command Center for Combating Weapons of Mass Destruction (DTRA/SCC-WMD) is no exception, and that is particularly true as we prepare for implementation of a sequestration required by the Budget Control Act of 2011. As the March 1, 2013, deadline for possible sequestration approaches, it is our goal to keep our partners in industry and academia informed about our plans. We recognize that industry and academia, as well as Government, must make internal business plans to deal with possible sequestration impacts.

If sequestration occurs, many of our contracts and grants will be affected. Even if sequestration is averted, challenging continuing resolution impacts may remain that could also affect not only our existing contract vehicles but also future awards. While we identify specific programs to be reduced or potentially canceled, it is our goal to engage our partners in industry and academia at the appropriate times.

To that end and to aid in our decision making process, I am encouraging program officials throughout DTRA/SCC-WMD, working in conjunction with their contracting officers, to enhance their communications with industry and academia regarding the effects of a possible sequestration and continuing resolution challenges. Further, as decisions are made relative to specific programs or contracts, the information will be passed expeditiously to those affected to allow as much time as possible to adjust program execution plans.

I will continue to keep you informed as our implementation plans are finalized.

Sincerely,

Gary T. Blore

Component Acquisition Executive